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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. FIRST NAMED INVENTOR FILING DATE APPLICATION NO. P0435OUSO-PHI-1196 David Whitaker 7190 09/490,476 01/24/2000 EXAMINER 05/10/2004 27142 7590 MCKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, P.L.C. MEHTA, ASHWIN D ATTN: PIONEER HI-BRED PAPER NUMBER ART UNIT 801 GRAND AVENUE, SUITE 3200 DES MOINES, IA 50309-2721 1638

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Applicant(s) Application No. 09/490,476 WHITAKER, DAVID Response to Rule 312 Communication Examiner **Art Unit** 1638 Ashwin Mehta -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --1. X The amendment filed on 26 February 2004 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been: a) a entered. b) \(\square\) entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention. c) disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee. Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue. d) disapproved. See explanation below. e) entered in part. See explanation below. ASHWIN D. MEHTA, PH.D. PATENT EXAMINER